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City urged to back All-Star Weekend bid

NHL The city's corporate services and economic development committee is recommending that the city throw its support behind the Feb. 8 bid from Senators Sports and Entertainment to host the 2012 NHL All-Star Weekend.

The committee approved the motion yesterday. If city council approves the request, the City of Ottawa would provide a maximum of \$200,000 to subsidize the event's festivities and provide in-kind services.

If SSE is successful, the event, which is scheduled for Jan. 28-29, 2012 — the 20th anniversary of the team's return to the NHL — would generate \$30 million in economic activity in Ottawa.

TRACEY TONG/
METRO OTTAWA

Winterlude It's that time again



Ottawa ice carver Suguru Kanbayashi works on Ogopogo, a 100-block ice sculpture to be featured at Confederation Park for Winterlude, which kicks off this weekend. Kanbayashi got his start 14 years ago, when he watched his father, one of the original ice carvers for Winterlude, at work. About 350,000 people are expected to take in the sculptures over the next three weeks. **Story, page 3**

No iron-clad alibi for Phillion: Prosecution

COURT Romeo Phillion did not have an iron-clad alibi that would have automatically cleared him of a 1967 murder conviction, a prosecutor argued yesterday.

But Ottawa Crown attorney Hilary McCormack offered no explanation yesterday as to why her office has decided to abandon a second chance to prosecute the Ottawa man for murder.

The legal arguments unfolding in the Ottawa courtroom represent a new and unusual chapter of the wrongful conviction case of the 70-year-old Phillion, who spent almost 32 years behind bars for a crime he says he did not commit.

Romeo Phillion



News on the Move

What's this barcode for?
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Vancouver Games

Countdown to 2010
Follow Metro as we bring you daily coverage leading up to the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver.
• Today — High expectations placed on speedskaters, page 10

Travel pg 18

Dock in Miami for boat show

On the web
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Van Doos or don't?

Decision looms for Canadian soldiers helping out in Haiti

The Conservative government, which has enjoyed positive reviews for its handling of the Haiti disaster, needs to make tough decisions soon about whether to keep troops in the earthquake-ravaged country, say defence experts.

About 1,000 soldiers from Canadian Forces Base Valcartier, Que., that were sent to Haiti are on a tight schedule.

The same unit, the 3rd Battalion of the Royal 22nd Regiment, goes to Afghanistan in December and is slated for combat training in Fort Irwin, Calif., this April.

That means the so-called Van Doos will have to be out of Haiti by mid-to-late March, just when defence analysts say security in the disaster zone may need to be increased.

"I just don't know how you maintain it, but by the same token I don't know how you pull out, given that

Haiti Crisis

it's such a continuing human crisis," said Robert Huebert, of the University of Calgary.

Experts have said gang violence and social unrest is likely to increase in the coming months.

Huebert says the "Forces are getting no down time, no rest time" and the government needs to make up its mind how the future mission will unfold.

The military also has its disaster-response team, two warships and regular air force relief flights going to the island nation.

A spokesman for Defence Minister Peter MacKay lauded the work the military has done in Haiti, but ac-

UN distribution sites

• The United Nations this week set up permanent distribution sites for aid and food, in an attempt to head off potential violence. Noting Haiti remains

"stable but potentially volatile," the world body also reported an armed group attacked a food convoy at an airport. **More coverage, page 6**

knowledge no decision has been made on whether the humanitarian deployment will be extended.

"We are looking at it day by day and assessing as the situation evolves," said Dan Dugas, Defence spokesman

An army spokesperson declined comment yesterday, saying only that they are reviewing the matter.

"We are stretched like a bungee cord as far as human resources go," said retired general Lew MacKenzie.

the part-time soldiers the largest element of the security force.

MacKenzie said reserve soldiers would be well suited for crowd control and relief operation duties.

"The search for money has really hammered the reserves," MacKenzie said.

Pulling together a part-time force for Haiti would have "budget implications," and the government would have to come up with cash, he added.

The Van Doos' time in Haiti could also be extended and another unit sent into the Afghan rotation. But MacKenzie said in either case, a decision is needed soon.

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Local



What can be better than free flapjacks?

Enbridge Gas Distribution is hosting a free Winterlude pancake breakfast at Festival Plaza at Ottawa City Hall from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday. Enbridge has hosted the pancake breakfast — which is one of the opening events to help kick off Canada's winter celebration — for the past six years. The community is invited to come by for free pancakes and hot chocolate. METRO OTTAWA

Carve it and they will come

Weather perfect for ice sculptors

TRACEY TONG
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Back in the 1980s, young Suguru Kanbayashi used to watch his father, one of the original ice carvers for Winterlude, at work.

"I grew up with it," said Kanbayashi. "I picked it up when I was a teenager and haven't looked back since."

Like his father, Kanbayashi showed a talent for the art, entering his first Winterlude competition 14 years ago.

Now a staple at the Winterlude International Ice Carving Competition, the 31-year-old Ottawa resident was creating one of three massive pieces at Confederation Park yesterday.

The subject? A pair of love-struck Oogopogo, a lake monster reported to live in B.C.'s Okanagan Lake, to go with the theme of this year's competition, Myths and Legends.

"For us, doing a piece along the theme of mythical creatures and stuff like that is right up our alley. We want to carve cool stuff like dragons and monsters and stuff that really makes an impact," said Kanbayashi, a computer programmer for Library and Archives Canada. The sculpture will take the team three eight-hour days to finish.

One of Kanbayashi's teammates, Calgary chef Scott Harrison, has been a

Open during week

About 350,000 people are expected at Confederation Park over the next three weeks, said co-ordinator Marie-Sylvie Perusse. While most are expected on weekends, the park is open during the week, presenting an opportunity for office workers who may want to check out the sculptures during their lunch breaks, she said.

carver for nine years, getting his start at Chateau Lake Louise.

This is his ninth Winterlude competition, which he calls "camp for carvers." "It's a real brotherhood," he said.

This year's competition will feature 13 teams and 13 solo carvers representing 11 countries, said Marie-Sylvie Perusse, National Capital Commission programming co-ordinator for Confederation Park during Winterlude.

The weather leading up to the first weekend of Winterlude has been perfect for the ice carvings, Perusse said.

Aside from the competition, Confederation Park will feature the Rogers Crystal Garden Stage with music, a live carving demonstration with a Guinness World Record holder for fastest carver and an event to teach the public how to carve ice.



Grade 11 Brookfield High School student Kamilla Riabko poses in front of a graffiti mural she painted with classmates Jenica Shivkumar and Kimberlie Parisien. Graffiti murals by high school students from both sides of the river will be on display at Dow's Lake until the end of the skating season.

Rideau Canal activity gears up

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m.metronews.ca



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CELEBRATION On Jan. 18, 1971, National Capital Commission chairman Douglas Fullerton had a crew clear the snow off the Rideau Canal between the Bronson Street overpass and the National Arts Centre.

In the 40 years since that first winter, the skateway has only gotten bigger, as have the events that take place on it.

With Winterlude opening Friday, activity on the skateway is about to hit a fever pitch.

The 27th annual Winterlude Triathlon takes place Saturday morning, followed

by bed races in the afternoon.

New this year is the NCC's Urban Art display, which was unveiled at Dow's Lake yesterday. The display, which celebrates the 40th year of the skateway, features dozens of graffiti murals created by high school students from both sides of the river.

Kamilla Riabko, a Grade

11 student at Brookfield High School, created a piece with classmates Jenica Shivkumar and Kimberlie Parisien.

The painting depicts a silhouette of an Olympic torchbearer skating under the Corktown Bridge.

Riabko said she liked that tens of thousands of skaters will see the mural.

"It's pretty cool," she said. "It's a very nice idea to get youth involved and actually doing our part for the city."

Woman battled eating disorder with sister

AWARENESS When Lisa Almond was 14, her 11-year-old sister, Kim, became severely anorexic.

Kim was in and out of the hospital for most of her teenage years. She developed diabetes and experienced heart failure.

Later on, Almond started dieting to drop some

pounds and fell into the same behaviour that was so damaging for her sister.

During International Eating Disorder Awareness Week this week, the Hopewell Eating Disorder Awareness Centre in Ottawa has organized events, including the Great Jeans Giveaway Days at uOttawa, Algonquin College and Carleton University.

After years of treatment, Almond, now a 35-year-old mother of two, made a full recovery, but after struggling with anorexia for nine years, Kim took her own life.

There are medical markers that dictate when someone can be diagnosed with an eating disorder, but specialist Diana Norton said those markers tend to be reached long after the disorder is fully developed.

TIM WIECLAWSKI/METRO OTTAWA



Lisa Almond

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News in brief

SPECIAL OLYMPICS NHL alumni, led by Brad Marsh, Laurie Boschman and Rick Vaive, will take on the Carleton Place Law Enforcement All-Stars in a Feb. 18 game to raise money for Special Olympics Ontario. Proceeds support the Law Enforcement Torch Run in its effort to provide sports to more than 16,000 athletes with intellectual disabilities.

BLACK HISTORY To commemorate Black History Month, Ottawa police are unveiling a banner at the police headquarters at 474 Elgin St. at 4:30 p.m. tomorrow. The public is welcome to attend.

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Police in Belleville, Ont., are asking people with information regarding the disappearance of a 27-year-old woman to call them instead of posting it to Facebook. More than 34,000 friends, family and strangers have joined a Facebook group dedicated to finding Jessica Lloyd since her disappearance late last Thursday. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Canada



Mom gets 30 months in baby death

A 20-year-old New Brunswick woman has been sentenced to 30 months in prison for criminal negligence causing death in the slaying of her newborn boy. Sarah Russell — who was originally charged with manslaughter, accessory after the fact and disposing the body of a newborn but pleaded guilty to the new charge in November — wept quietly after she was sentenced.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Official says hospitals need more funding

OHA calls for 2% increase to avoid cuts

Ontario hospitals will have to close beds and scale back or even eliminate basic health care services if they don't get at least a two per cent increase in operating funds from the provincial government, the Ontario Hospital Association warned yesterday.

Premier Dalton McGuinty has already ruled out a funding freeze for hospitals in the March budget, and the government has drafted proposals for a one per cent increase or a maximum two per cent increase as it deals with a record \$24.7-billion deficit.

A two per cent increase

Running deficits

• Even though hospitals are forbidden by law from running deficits, more than a third of those in Ontario — 61 in all —

were in the red last spring, but many received waivers from the province because they have agreed to balance their books.

is “the absolute minimum increase necessary to maintain health system stability and access to patient care,” OHA president and CEO Tom Closson told the legislature's finance committee.

“The data strongly suggest that an increase of less than two per cent in hospital operating funding would undercut the government's goals with re-

spect to reducing wait times in emergency (departments), undo much of the hard-won progress made to date in reducing surgical wait times and erode public confidence in the health care system,” said Closson.

Inadequate funding would have an even more serious impact on hospitals in northern Ontario.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ontario Willie sees his shadow



South Bruce Peninsula Mayor Gwenn Gilbert puts her ear to Wiarton Willie in Wiarton, Ont., yesterday. Canada's most famous furry forecaster emerged from his slumber and saw his shadow on Groundhog Day, which means that six more weeks of winter are still ahead of us.

Williams blasted for heading south

HEALTH Danny Williams' sky-high popularity ratings may have imbued him with the status of political demigod in Newfoundland, but the outspoken premier was nevertheless feeling the heat yesterday for his decision to seek heart surgery in the United States.

Having left a huge information vacuum in his wake — there was no word on his condition, the type of surgery he needs or where he is getting it — Williams is facing a level of scrutiny and criticism rarely seen since he became premier in 2003.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Danny Williams' choice to have surgery in the U.S. fans the flames of debate in that country. Scan this code for the story.

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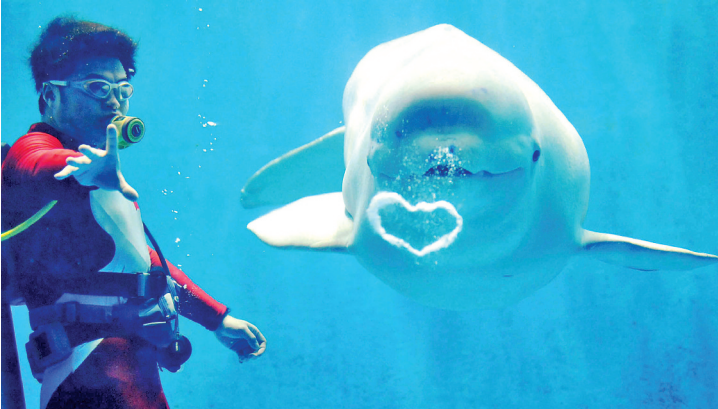
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Los Angeles prosecutors plan to charge Michael Jackson's doctor with manslaughter rather than take the case to a grand jury, a law enforcement official said yesterday. Prosecutors will file a criminal complaint against Dr. Conrad Murray, who practices in Houston, instead of taking the case before a grand jury, which is done in private, the official said. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Jackson's doctor to be charged

World/Business

China Love bubbles



In this photo released by China's Xinhua News Agency, a white whale blows heart-shaped bubbles at the Harbin Polarland in China's northeast Heilongjiang Province yesterday.

Police repel food convoy hijacking

Haiti Crisis

Twenty armed men blocked a road and tried to hijack a convoy of food for earthquake victims, but were driven off by police gunfire, UN officials said yesterday as they warned of security problems in the still-desperate nation.

The attack on the convoy as it carried supplies from an airport in the southern town of Jeremie underscored the shaky safety in the streets that has added to Haitians' frustration at the slow pace of aid since the Jan. 12 earthquake.

Most quake victims are still living outside in squalid tents of sheets and sticks and aid officials acknowl-

Judge questions U.S. church group

A Haitian judge yesterday was questioning a group of U.S. Baptist missionaries arrested trying to leave Haiti with a busload of children they gathered from the disaster zone. The investigating magis-

edge they have not yet gotten food to the majority of those in need.

Mobs have stolen food and looted goods from their neighbours in the camps, prompting many to band together or stay awake at night to prevent raids.

About 20 armed men blockaded a street Saturday and attacked a convoy carrying food from the airport in Jeremie, according to UN spokesman Vincenzo Pugliese. UN and Haitian of-

trate queried the five women for several hours and will follow up with the five men today, according to the Haiti's communications minister. The Americans have yet to be charged.

ficers fired warning gunshots and the men fled the scene, Pugliese said. No injuries were reported and no one was hurt.

"The overall security situation across the country remains stable, but potentially volatile," the UN mission said in a statement yesterday. In Jacmel, 33 escaped prisoners were apprehended Sunday, the UN said. Many prisoners escaped when prisons collapsed.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

WASHINGTON Al-Qaida can be expected to attempt an attack on the United States in the next three to six months, senior U.S. intelligence officials told Congress yesterday the terrorist organization is deploying operatives to the United States to carry out new attacks from inside the country, including "clean" recruits with a negligible trail of terror contacts, CIA Director Leon Panetta said. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Medical journal retracts study

VACCINE A top British medical journal has retracted a discredited study that linked the measles, mumps and rubella vaccine to autism and fuelled anti-vaccination sentiments in Europe and North America.

The Lancet, which published the controversial paper by Andrew Wakefield and colleagues in 1998, said yesterday it had

become clear following a review of Wakefield's conduct by Britain's General Medical Council that several elements of the study were false.

The Lancet's move, viewed as long overdue by many infectious disease experts, was welcomed as a way of clearing discredited data from the scientific record.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business

No second-round of stimulus spending: Flaherty

Canada won't get a second round of stimulus spending even though the economy has yet to fully recover, Finance Minister Jim Flaherty said yesterday.

The finance minister met with 15 economists yesterday morning and revised the country's projection for growth slightly upwards this year and slightly downwards longer term.

But the major difference in the new projections comes in comparing where the economy is today to where the government expected it last January, when it passed a record \$46-billion stimulus package.

Ottawa now believes the country's 2010 nominal gross domestic product — the size of the economy — will be \$56 billion

Taking a guess

In the government's most recent calculation, the deficit is projected to slide from the current \$56 billion to \$5 billion in fiscal year 2014-15. However, Parliamentary budget watchdog Kevin Page disputes Ottawa's numbers, predicting the aging population will limit economic expansion

below the level it expected last January, which directly affects tax revenues.

And the gap expands in outgoing years.

As well, it now expects the unemployment rate to average 8.5 per cent this year — less than the view in September — but a full point higher than the January 2009 budget estimate.

After meeting with the economists yesterday, the minister said the recovery is still fragile and uncertainty remains. But, he stressed, he won't change his plans to keep the stimulus flowing for one more year and then turn off the tap.

"We don't intend to do more stimulus other than what we committed to," he said. "This country looks so great, compared to most of the other western industrialized countries." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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While positive U.S. housing numbers buoyed stock markets, there's still plenty for investors to be wary of. Scan this code for the story.

Hong Kong Forgery case



The brother and sisters of Asia's richest businesswoman, the late Nina Wang, from left, Kung Yan-fum, Kung Yan-sum and Molly Cong, speak after winning a huge court case in Hong Kong yesterday. A bartender-turned-fortune teller who had an affair with the pig-tailed Hong Kong tycoon lost his bid for her multibillion-dollar estate when a court deemed his will a forgery.

Business in brief

ENERGY Suncor Energy Inc., Canada's biggest energy company, posted a \$457-million profit in the final quarter of 2009, reversing a big loss in the prior-year period, but remaining well below analyst

expectations. The oil and gas producer, refiner and fuel retailer said it earned 29 cents per share in the last three months of the year.

DEBT Globalive says it intends to enter into a private debt fi-

nancing arrangement for its Wind Mobile wireless company with investment banks. Company says financing won't change ownership and control structure of Wind.

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Comment

Sinking to new lows

TheWestView

Paul Sullivan

metronews.ca/thewestview

How low can they go? Politicians, that is. Already among the least trusted professionals — a recent Reader's Digest poll ranked them 39 out of 41, barely above car salespeople and telemarketers — recent shenanigans should earn them coveted last place in next year's poll.

Even in an era of new lows represented by poster boy Rod Blagojevich, the former governor of Illinois, it has not been a great season for politicians.

The man elected to Ted Kennedy's U.S. senate seat is most famous for posing nude in Cosmo.

A New Brunswick MLA has gone viral on YouTube,

caught rapping in the House to an American Idol contestant's "original song." "Pants on the ground, pants on the ground, you're lookin' like a fool with your pants on the ground." Funny, sure, but it hardly elevates the level of legislative debate.

Someone tossed a politically correct pie in the face of Fisheries Minister Gail Shea for her stand on that annual outrage, the cute baby seal hunt, which is scheduled to start again shortly. Politically correct as no animal

byproducts were harmed in the baking of the tofu cream pie. Poor Ms. Shea; it didn't even taste good.

And on Parliament Hill, home of that daily jackal fest known as question period, the prime minister arbitrarily prorogued the 40th Canadian Parliament until March 3. Just say no to democracy.

Of course, the way things are going, most of us see that as an improvement.

It's worse in England, where politicians scored an all-time low for public trust in a recent Ipsos Mori poll, making them the least trusted professionals in the nation, even lower than journalists, that other reviled sect.

It might have something to do with one MP claiming porn movies as a parliamentary expense or another hiring his teenage son, a full-time student, as a "parliamentary assistant" for more than £11,000 (\$18,650). One even claimed £16.50 (\$27.99) for a wreath allegedly draped on a war memorial.

As amusing as these hijinks may seem, there are serious consequences. Faced with this Confederation of Dunces, career aspirants are flocking to alternatives such as auto sales and telemarketing, or God forbid, journalism. Who's left to guide democracy? The kids of South Park?

And who will bother to vote for these jokers? Voter turnout in the last federal election was already at an all-time low.

It makes you long for the good old days of ... Brian Mulroney?

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.



Brian Mulroney

BACK TO THE FUTURE



Online chatter

Asked on Twitter: Should Canadian NHLers competing in the 2010 Winter Games in Vancouver receive money if they win a medal, like amateur athletes do?

OTTAWA

@jentrappin: If they do get paid, they better be donating it ALL. NHL players definitely aren't in need of another paycheck.

HALIFAX

@666300: I do not think NHL players should be given cash rewards.

There is a big difference between the NHL and amateur level salaries. They are playing for their country, not for money. The incentive of a victory for Canada should be enough.

@paulac46: Sure they should ... then they should turn around and donate it back to the amateurs like I do when I win 50/50 at local rink.



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TORONTO

@RK818: No, especially since they should not be there in the first place. The Olympics should celebrate the amateur spirit.

@smaldybigby: Hell-to-the-No.

@immy925: i think they should b/c rules are rules, but the hope would be they'd reinvest into one of those youth sports charities.

CALGARY

@codytorgerson: Sure, but let those who do donate it to their favourite charity.

@nicolesaxton: NHLers make millions a year! If they receive any money from the Olympics they should donate it to charity!

@mb_wilson: If Cdn NHLers donate the money they receive at the Olympics to a notable cause, then yes.

Word on the street: Should Canadian NHLers competing in the 2010 Winter Games in Vancouver receive money if they win a medal, like amateur athletes do?

Benoit Seguin
Gatineau

A: I'm totally against the enormous salaries that hockey players get and I don't know how much they're given, but why not?

Zela Eggleston
Ottawa

A: Maybe they should donate that money to charity because those players already have huge salaries. They should put it towards a good cause rather than their own pockets.

Ryan Crowshoe
Ottawa

A: It doesn't really matter. They're just like everyone else.

Kelly Cousins
Halifax

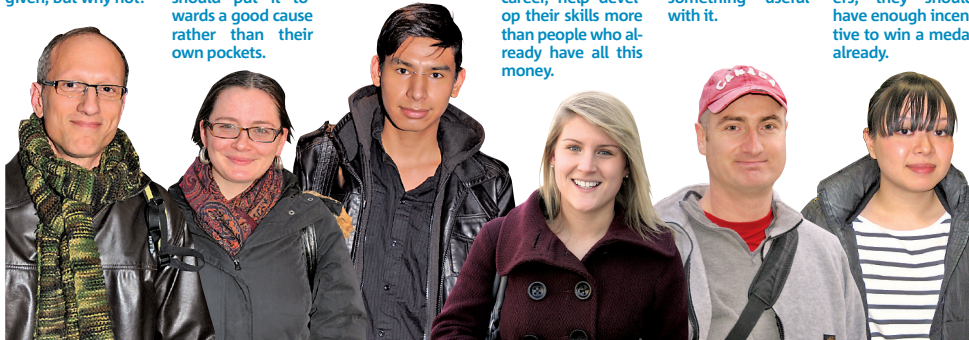
A: No, I just don't think they need it. The money could go to amateurs who really need it to help build their career, help develop their skills more than people who already have all this money.

Peter Litherland
Vancouver

A: They are entitled to it, and they should get it, but it's up to the athlete to be a good corporate citizen and do something useful with it.

Liz Do
Toronto

A: No. They already get paid so much to begin with, and since they already have a lot of money and a lot of followers, they should have enough incentive to win a medal already.



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Johnson heads West

Former Blue Jay Reed Johnson has agreed to a one-year contract with the Los Angeles Dodgers. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

9

Sports

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONWS.CA

Proving his worth

Sens' coach is no longer an NHL unknown

TheHockeyNews

Ken Campbell

thehockeynews.com

When Cory Clouston steps behind the bench tonight for the Ottawa Senators game in Buffalo, things will be hugely different than they were a year ago.

Clouston will mark his first anniversary as Senators coach tonight in Buffalo and the team he guides now is not at all the same as the one he took over on Feb. 3, 2009. First of all, the Senators are a solid playoff team and a contender in the Eastern Conference, they're better defensively and they're feeling a lot better about the future.

And Clouston himself is no longer a desperate choice and an NHL unknown. He has proved beyond any doubt that he is a very good coach at this level and has the ability to get the most out of his team. That much was evident this season, in particular when they started the season without Dany Heatley and key players such as Daniel Alfredsson, Jason Spezza, Anton Volchenkov, Pascal Leclaire and Milan Michalek went down with



Ottawa head coach Cory Clouston has led the Senators to a 50-32-8 record since taking over the club a year ago today.

injuries.

Since taking over a Senators team that was hopelessly out of the playoff race last year, Clouston has compiled a record of 50-32-8 with the Senators for a .600 win percentage. He has them currently in fifth place in the East and has managed to distance the Senators a little bit from the pack of teams that are killing each other on a nightly basis in their pursuit of a playoff spot.

Clouston has even garnered some support for the Jack Adams Award as the NHL's top coach and with good reason. Since Clouston took over the Senators, only seven NHL coaches have compiled better records than Clouston. Just

so you know, they are Bruce Boudreau of the Washington Capitals, Alain Vigneault of the Vancouver Canucks, Todd McLellan of the San Jose Sharks, Joel Quenneville of the Chicago Blackhawks, Joe Sacco of the Colorado Avalanche, Dan Bylsma of the Pittsburgh Penguins and Jacques Lemaire of the Minnesota Wild/New Jersey Devils.

Notice a trend here? With the exception of Sacco, each of the other guys has a whole lot more talent at his disposal than Clouston does.

The Hockey News
thn.com

Sports in brief

SOCCER Chelsea missed the chance to go four points clear at the top of the English Premier League with a 1-1 draw at Hull yesterday. The draw left Chelsea on 55 points, three clear of defending champion Manchester United.

CFL The Canadian Football Hall of Fame is set to welcome five new members. The class of 2010 includes Bob Cameron,

Tracy Ham, Don Narcisse, Elfrid Payton and Joe Pistilli.

NHL Michael Cammalleri will be out for about six weeks with a knee injury but the good news for the Montreal Canadiens' top scorer is that he won't need surgery.

NFL New York Jets quarterback Mark Sanchez will have surgery on his left knee and is expected to be ready well be-

fore training camp.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

m.metronews.ca



Scan this barcode for summaries of last night's NHL games.

SCOREBOARD

NHL
YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
Toronto 3 New Jersey 0
Washington 4 Boston 1
Tampa Bay 2 Atlanta 1
Montreal 3 Vancouver 2
Phoenix at Nashville

Minnesota at Dallas
Columbus at Colorado
NY Rangers at Los Angeles
Detroit at San Jose

NBA

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

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Cleveland 105 Memphis 89
Detroit 97 New Jersey 93
L.A. Clippers 90 Chicago 82
Oklahoma City 106 Atlanta 99
Orlando 99 Milwaukee 82
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Vancouver Games

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Massive rings disappear, sending rumours flying

MYSTERY Under the incandescent grey skies of Vancouver, the international media has had at least one glimmer of light for photos in the lead-up to the Games.

And now that's been taken away, too.

A massive set of Olympic rings that lit up nightly atop a barge in the waters of downtown Vancouver mysteriously disappeared yesterday.

Vancouver Police say they know nothing about the missing rings, once located inside the Games' marine security zone and outside their jurisdiction.

One rumour was that



These giant Olympic rings vanished yesterday.

they had been moved to act as the final cauldron for the Olympic flame during next week's opening ceremonies.

But Olympic organizers say there's no mystery or conspiracy afoot — the rings have been taken away for a power refitting and should be glowing again in the next few days. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Canada will be No. 2: Magazine

PREDICTION Sports Illustrated is picking Canada to be second-best at this month's Olympics in Vancouver.

In its Feb. 8 edition, which hits newsstands today, the sports magazine projects the Canadian team to finish with 30 medals at the Games — 10 gold, 11 silver and nine bronze.

Germany is predicted to lead the way with 35

medals, including 11 gold, 11 silver and 13 bronze.

Sports Illustrated thinks the Americans will finish third with 27 medals; seven gold, 10 silver and 10 bronze.

The Germans topped the medal count at the 2006 Olympics in Turin, Italy, with 29 medals.

The Americans were second with 25, followed by the Canadians with 24.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Long track, high hopes

With nine medals predicted, speedskaters key to Canada's plans

For years long-track speedskating was ruled by Europeans and Americans, home to the kind of talent most Canadian competitors had little hope of bumping from the podium.

Occasionally, a Gaetan Boucher or Susan Auch would emerge and break through to interrupt that domination. Only such success was fleeting, and never really spread deeper than an athlete or two.

That started changing at the turn of the century, and with the blades set to hit the Richmond Olympic Oval ice at the Vancouver Games, there is a new pecking order in the speedskating world.

Led by the likes of Kristina Groves and Christine Nesbitt, Canada boasts a deep and talented long-track team that may very well claim more medals than any other at these Olympics.

The Dutch, Americans, Germans and Norwegians, among others, have not gone away by any means. But they now see the Canadians the way Canadians once saw them — as a giant obstacle to victory.

"I was really inspired by Clara (Hughes) and Cindy (Klassen) when they came into the team and pretty quickly were right up there. I was like, 'Wow, we can compete against the Dutch and the Germans, we're in there,'" said Groves, who will race in five events and has the potential to win a medal in each.

"Now, I'm so thankful to be part of this ridiculously strong team."

Team is the optimal word. Canadians won eight medals at the Turin Games but five came from Cindy Klassen's awe-inspiring performance.

This time around, Groves, Nesbitt and Denny Morrison each have the potential to win multiple medals, with a host of other contenders sprinkled in around them.

Privately, Speed Skating Canada officials feel their athletes can climb the podium nine times, and that's not counting on Klassen or Jeremy Wotherspoon, both of whom are wild cards after working their way back



Christine Nesbitt skates during the World Cup Speedskating Championships Dec. 11 in Utah.

from injuries.

That depth of talent has kept the pressure from being focused on one single skater. That has been important since team members have regularly been reminded that they must own the oval for Canada to have any chance of owning the podium at these Olympics.

The onus on them to deliver extends beyond that, too. The long-track team has received about \$8.9 million in Own The Podium funding the past five seasons, the third-highest total spent on any of Canada's winter sports teams, and it's time to justify that expenditure.

On the web

Learn more about Christine Nesbitt in an interactive profile at metronews.ca

"I think they're as ready as can be," says Catriona Le May Doan, the two-time Olympic 500-metre champion who will work as a TV analyst during the Games. "I think what's nice is that so many of them have expectations. I was told by one of the team members that this is the best they've ever felt that the team is really a team."

"That's really helping

them."

The pressure won't solely be on the Canadians under the oval's architecturally stunning curved wooden roof.

Speedskating in the Netherlands is as important there as hockey is to Canadians. The Dutch skaters, led by distance events star Sven Kramer, will be expected to bring home a hefty medal haul.

American star Shani Davis has dominated the middle distances this season and will be expected to add a couple of gold medals to the gold and silver he won in Turin.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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NAME	LOCATION	GP	G	A	PTS
1. Brian B	AB, CA	788	334	463	797
2. Jonathon Gremesberger	BC, CA	790	334	456	790
3. Shawn Tschirter	AB, CA	787	315	464	779
4. Christian Gagnon	NB, CA	748	313	460	773
4. Kyle Turk	NS, CA	796	332	441	773
6. Cole Warren	NS, CA	776	288	478	766
7. Joanne Doiron	NB, CA	744	305	459	764
7. Stephanie Warren	NS, CA	766	320	444	764
9. Jean-Paul Osborne	QC, CA	783	306	456	762
10. Shane Gladue	AB, CA	777	280	477	757
11. Feroz Mir	ON, CA	769	299	457	756
12. Bernie Horton	ON, CA	734	313	442	755
13. Tom Collier	NS, CA	801	346	408	754
14. Jordan Camponi	AB, CA	749	297	455	752
15. Steve Ferguson	ON, CA	779	312	439	751

* Results exclude Quebec

Nearly \$14 million for research projects in N.L.

The federal government announced Sunday \$13.8 million under the Atlantic Innovation Fund for seven R&D projects in Newfoundland and Labrador. Memorial University will receive a total of \$9.6 million for five projects. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Workology

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Program ups Indian enrolment

A new program between Citizenship and Immigration Canada and the Association of Canadian Community Colleges is being credited for doubling the acceptance rate of Indian students coming to study at a select group of Canadian colleges. Launched in April, the Student Partners Program aims to increase the approval rate of study permit applications at 20 participating colleges. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

40 people, 40 tastes, 40 dishes

Working the Wok

For the month of February, Metro's Workology section will be focusing on some delicious food-related careers. Check back every Wednesday for a new feature.

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Canada



The best part of cooking for a living is the thrill of a busy kitchen and a restaurant full of customers. It's also the worst part, if you're at the end of a 108-hour week.

Jimmy Dao, chef at the popular Talay Thai restaurant in downtown Halifax, cranks out 18-hour days six days a week in peak times, but if he wants to complain to the boss, he has to find a mirror: He owns the business with his family.

"It's very stressful and very busy. Never ending,"



While being a chef can offer you unbridled creativity in the kitchen, it can also be an incredibly busy job.

he says. "When it's busy, it's a good sign and you're happy, but tired. You feel excited when everything is moving around — it's like exercise."

Dao trained on the job, working in restaurants in Moncton, Montreal and Toronto before opening Ta-

lay Thai five years ago. The long and unsociable hours mean he doesn't see his two-year-old son as much as he'd like, but it's the price he pays for doing a job he loves.

"I hope I can continue another 20 years," he says.

John Higgins, director of

the Chef School at George Brown College in Toronto, agrees that killer hours are one of the big downsides to cooking for a living.

"Cooking is a tough job. You're on your feet all day, there's pressures, deadlines, customers," he says. "You get 40 customers and

you've got 40 different taste palates and you're only as good as your last meal."

The good news is the industry is expanding, meaning jobs at not just hotels and restaurants, but also golf courses, casinos, catering firms and venues like the Air Canada Centre.

Companies like Unilever also hire chefs, offering the elusive nine-to-five cooking job.

George Brown College offers a one-year chef training certificate or a two-year culinary management diploma. Year one covers the basic skills needed to work in the food-service industry, like hygiene, tool use and cooking styles. Year two takes those skills deeper. The training is half hands-on, half theory. Theory covers the science of cooking. A lamb chop, for example, can be cooked with radiated heat on a grill, but ox tail has to be cooked much longer because the connective tissue of the collagen takes a few hours to break down.

The hands-on side lets the budding chefs loose in the school's 14 state-of-the-art kitchens, where recipes take a back seat to skills.

For more of the Working the Wok exclusive series check Workology every Wednesday or stop by: metronews.ca/work

Workology in brief

RECESSION'S IMPACT ON UNIVERSITIES The Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations held a conference late last month titled Financing Higher Education in the Current Economic Climate, bringing together speakers from universities, research institutes, governments, and the private sector in Canada and the U.S. The conference was designed to reflect on the current downturn's impact on universities, examine trends in PSE financing, and consider implications for the future. OCUFA has posted on its website some of the material presented at the conference.

AUCC TO HOLD SYMPOSIUM ON NORTH-SOUTH PARTNERSHIPS

National and international experts will gather in Ottawa today and Wednesday for a symposium hosted by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada to discuss key issues, challenges, and best practices for North-South partnerships in relation to universities' internationalization efforts. The symposium will feature new research from AUCC, guest speakers from the South, plenary sessions, and discussion. **ALBERTA STUDENT FEE** Last week, the University of Alber-

ta's general faculties council approved a recommendation to establish the Common Student Space, Sustainability and Safety Fee, a \$570 annual student fee aimed at dealing with the institution's \$59 million shortfall. A university official says the fee is crucial for UAlberta to avoid layoffs. While the school's academic planning committee will decide if the fee is implemented, the final dollar amount would be decided by the board of governors in late March. If approved, the fee will be charged at the beginning of the next academic year.

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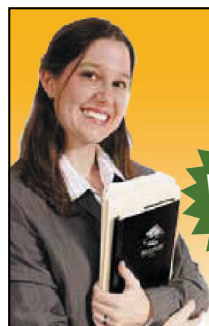
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Manitoba dentists approve fee to support uManitoba dental school

Dentists attending the Manitoba Dental Association's annual meeting last Thursday approved a one-time \$500 fee to keep the University of Manitoba's outreach dental clinics open this year. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Workology in brief

FORMER FNUC STUDENT REP CHARGED WITH DEFAUDING STUDENT UNION A former member of the First Nations University of Canada Students' Association has been charged with defrauding the organization of \$35,000 through a cheque-writing scheme. Blue Pelletier, 31, faces one count of fraud and one count of theft dating from August 2006 to February 2007. Pelletier is scheduled to appear in court in June. A current student union vice-president says two signatures are now required on association cheques, and

FNUC's finance department must also approve cheques over a certain dollar value. **\$24 MILLION FOR ULAVAL CAMPUS INFRASTRUCTURE** Yesterday the federal and Quebec governments announced \$23.65 million under the Knowledge Infrastructure Program for two projects at Université Laval. The funds will support renovations to the Alexandre-Vachon pavilion and the medicine and dentistry faculty building. Yesterday's announcement follows up on \$38 million in KIP funding awarded to uLaval in July.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Humour on the job necessary

Dragons' Den

Dianne Buckner

metronews.ca/dragonsden

Humour in the workplace — there are big benefits to having a laugh at work, but joking around can also be risky.

We all love to have some fun in our working lives. And there are often opportunities to make light of challenges and crack a good joke, especially when team members share triumphs and failures on a daily basis.

And there's no question that one of the reasons Dragons' Den is so popular, is that every Dragon has a well-developed sense of humour. A couple of weeks ago Kevin told two young girls pitching for investment that he can only tell the truth about bad business ideas, because he was once hit by a lightning bolt.

"Is that what happened to your hair?" asked Robert.

"Maybe that's why you're not tall," zinged Brett.

And this week a woman pitches for investment in her baby-related business by giving every Dragon a doll to hold.



Kevin O'Leary with his Dragon doll from Happy Nappy Diaper Service.

"Give me your baby," Arlene says to Kevin. "I want to spank it."

They like to have fun in their workplace — and who doesn't?

But humour can also be risky. Obviously jokes about race or sex or religion are unwelcome, and sometimes even an innocent joke can go wrong.

As a teenager I worked at The Bay. For some reason, if one of my co-workers returned from a break and asked if anyone had called, I would say "Yes, the boss phoned. You're fired."

I know — it's not funny — but what can I say? I was a goofy 17 year old! Luckily they knew it, and usually at least smiled at my kidding around.

But one time, a salesman I'll call Bill returned from lunch and asked if there were any calls. Pretending to be reading from a message on the desk, I made my usual crack. "Yeah the boss says to tell you you're fired".

Bill's face fell — he looked like he'd seen a ghost. "I'm kidding, I'm kidding!" I blurted, apologizing as fast as I could.

Bill was relieved, but definitely seemed shaken as he returned to the sales floor.

The next week I heard that Bill had been fired. I realized that he'd probably been told he was on probation, and my stupid "joke" sounded very real to him. Needless to say, I felt awful.

And it taught me a lesson. I still love to be playful and good-humoured at work, but I am careful to do so in good taste.

Dianne Buckner is the host of Dragons' Den and the weekend anchor on the CBC News Network. Watch Dragons' Den at 8 p.m. tonight on CBC.



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Quebec university leaders in India to boost PSE partnerships

Several heads of Quebec universities are taking part in Premier Jean Charest's mission to India this week, with a goal to further relations with post-secondary institutions in India. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Contract frustration?

WorkplaceLaw

Daniel Lublin



Metronews.ca/workplacelaw

"Experience is the name everyone gives to their mistakes"

— OSCAR WILDE

Seldom will a temporary illness justify dismissal. But what happens when a sick employee may never return? Can employers discard employees they view as festering on their disability insurance or must they keep their jobs available for an indefinite period of time? According to a recent Alberta case, employers must tread carefully with injured employees or pay the price of their severance.

When Sandra Lipa received a package in the mail containing her record of employment signed by her replacement and her outstanding vacation pay, she assumed she had been

fired. Lipa had left work five months' earlier due to an illness and it was not clear when she would return.

Lipa's employer, Can-Cell Industries, disagreed. Lipa hadn't qualified for short or long-term disability insurance, and in the meantime it had no choice but to replace her in her position. Can-Cell wrote to Lipa requesting medical confirmation that her illness prevented her from working and gave her a deadline to respond. When Lipa questioned the sincerity of Can-Cell's position, she was fired for cause.

The company argued that Lipa had abandoned her employment by refusing to return and that her employment was frustrated so it did not owe her any severance.

The legal principle of frustration of contract means that what you have initially bargained for no longer exists. In workplace law, the issue often arises when employees are absent for an indefinite period of time, without any reasonable likelihood of return-

ing. If an employment contract is frustrated, then the employer has the right to walk away from the employee, without paying any severance.

Recently, an Alberta court considered Can-Cell's arguments and rejected its assertions that Lipa had done anything wrong or that her employment had been frustrated.

According to the judge, Can-Cell had treated Lipa's health problems as being "fortuitous." By arguing that Lipa had abandoned her job, Can-Cell was simply seeking to avoid paying her severance.

It was always Lipa's intention to return, and Can-Cell had acted disingenuously by requesting medical evidence after already signalling its intention to fire her.

Canadian employers are not permitted to discard employees whose prospects for recovering from an illness appear dim.

Daniel A. Lublin is an employment lawyer with Whitten & Lublin LLP. Reach him at dan@toronto-employmentlawyer.com.

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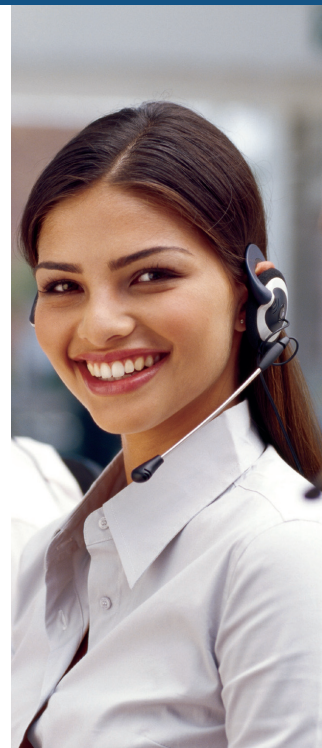
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RRSP Guide



Don't forget

The deadline for making contributions to your Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP) for the 2009 tax year is March 1, 2010. That means you only have 26 days left!

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

Go back to basics

Advisers advocate using tried and tested strategies

RAFAEL BRUSILOV
for Metro Canada

The tough economy drew many Canadians away from their RRSP strategies, but now is the time to come back, experts say.

Aaron Margolis, a vice-president at Investors Group, says last year's market scramble has mostly stabilized and the time is ripe for smart, careful investing.

"Certainly the market conditions this year are very different. Last year there was so much fear

and panic, this year there's much more calmness. There's a sense that people need to get back into the market, but in a prudent way," Margolis said.

Rather than looking for quick fixes, get back to tried and tested strategies like RRSPs and income-generating investments.

"It's about getting back to the basics. Advisers are saying what has worked in the past should put you in good standing in the future — it might be a little more boring but it works. It's almost like the old adage: What's old is new," Margolis said.

While the Tax-Free Savings Account introduced last year has proven popular, Margolis says you should prioritize your



The market is ripe for smart, careful investing, experts say.

RRSP contribution first because of the tax savings it can provide.

"The TFSA is a terrific vehicle for creating emergency savings, but try as much as possible to max out your RRSP first to benefit from tax efficiencies inherent in it, then consider maximizing your TFSA contribution," Margolis said.

Look for investments that grant an income and try as best as possible to invest with your risk tolerance in mind, he suggests.

Lee Anne Davies, head of retirement strategies at RBC, says an RRSP should be a long-term priority for any Canadian, yet in a re-

cent RBC RRSP poll, only 35 per cent of Canadians with RRSPs said they plan to contribute to their RRSP for the 2009 tax year, with 54 per cent citing the tough economy as the reason. Perhaps more surprising, the poll also found that 32 per cent of Canadians have not started saving for their retirement, an unfortunate scenario in the making, Davies says.

"We're all going to re-

tire eventually, and you want to make sure you have that nest egg waiting for you," Davies said.

For people feeling like they can't spare enough to save for retirement, Davies says putting away even a relatively small amount, like \$25 or \$30 each month, can make a big difference in the long run.

"Stay committed to your retirement and it will happen one day. If you just keep saving a bit at a time, it really does add up," Davies said.

What's your risk tolerance? Take our quiz at metronews.ca

RRSP options vary

There are different options for handling your RRSP investments and experts advise a diverse portfolio to protect against the shocks of the marketplace.

"You don't want to keep all of your eggs in one basket," says Allison Marshall, financial advisory consultant with the Royal Bank of Canada. "You want to divide your assets in your RRSP between the different types of investments and also look at some foreign content."

Marshall points to three main options: Cash, bonds and equity. You don't want to have a lot of cash in your RRSP as it defeats the purpose of wanting to earn a rate of return. Treasury bills or money market investments and Canada/provincial savings bonds are "some examples of more liquid investments," she says.

Bonds may also include GICs (Guaranteed Investment Certificates). "You can have any bonds that are issued by companies that are listed on a public exchange in Canada or ... debt that was issued by a company that's on what Canada calls a designated stock exchange," she explains. That includes U.S., U.K. and Japanese exchanges. A full list can be found at fin.gc.ca.

For equities, you can have any of those common shares and preferred shares on those designated exchanges.

While many people just trust the issuer of the RRSPs to handle the account, a more hands-on investor may want a self-directed RRSP for a wider investment range. Information on those can be found at cra-arc.gc.ca.

In Calgary, Sun Life Financial's Lance Shilliday breaks it down to GICs, mutual funds and segregated funds.

GICs are interest-rate bearing, meaning you can lock in a guaranteed interest rate for one to five years. Mutual funds range from money market to equity funds and segregated funds "are basically the same type of funds as a mutual fund, but they have guarantees associated with them, like a death-benefit and maturity-benefit guarantee," he says.

A new feature is a guaranteed minimum withdrawal benefit. "That basically guarantees you an income for life," he says.

—JON TATRIE
FOR METRO CANADA

Next week's lineup

HOW TO SAVE For advice from the experts on strategies for saving, pick up Metro's next RRSP Guide on Feb. 10.

Contribute as much as you can: Expert

ROBYN YOUNG
for Metro Canada

It's RRSP season again and time to think about how to maximize your contributions.

So what's the best way to go about it?

Kevin Cork, a certified financial planner based in Calgary, says in a financial planner's dream world, everyone would line up on Jan. 1 and make their contribution for that year, then march off, happy as clams.

But the reality is that not everyone is able to max

out their contributions every year, so the next best option is to contribute as much as you can.

"The number one reason to do the RRSP is the concept of building for retirement," he said. "The way our social system is set up in Canada — and it's one of the best in the world — it doesn't provide anything even close to a reasonable retirement income for people."

Whatever amount you contribute, make sure your money is invested wisely, he said.

"There are lots of stories about people who have



The number one reason people invest in an RRSP is to save for their retirement, says Kevin Cork, a certified financial planner.

popped their money in an RRSP every year and then come retirement, they've found they've been putting

their money into a daily interest account for the last 40 years and have almost no money to do anything with," he said.

If you know nothing about finances and don't want to spend more than five minutes a year thinking about your RRSPs, go for the "plain, vanilla, dull, balanced mutual fund," he said.

As you become more comfortable with investing, try to develop an in-

vestment portfolio so your money has a chance to grow, he said.

When considering how much to contribute every year, Alim Dhanji, a certified financial planner with Assante Financial Management Ltd. in Vancouver, says it should be based on life goals.

"For beginners, they should seek guidance before making their contribution from a qualified professional such as a CFP (certified financial planner)," he said.

For young people, having a financial plan is important because it helps prioritize goals such as student loan payments, saving for a home or saving for retirement.

Contributing to an RRSP helps develop good saving habits while at the same time preparing you for retirement.

Dhanji recommends setting up a monthly RRSP contribution.

Tax-Free Saving Account vs. an RRSP

Jamie Golombek, managing director of tax and estate planning for CIBC, says that for people with lower incomes and in a lower tax bracket, it may make more sense to contribute to a Tax-Free Savings

Account instead of an RRSP.

"They could find that, upon retirement, they're actually in a higher tax bracket than they are right now," he said.

In that case, their money will be taxed at a higher rate

when it's withdrawn, upon retirement, than the rate the tax was deducted at when they contributed.

"For many Canadians, maximizing the TFSA should take priority over RRSPs," he said.

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The Nissan Leaf electric car has been named Green Car Journal's 2010 Green Car Vision Award winner at The Washington Auto Show. The innovative Leaf is scheduled to go on sale later this year. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Metro Drive



Michelin plugs in

Michelin has unveiled a new prototype tire designed specifically for battery-powered electric vehicles, providing automakers with benefits including increased range or the ability to reduce the battery size to optimize interior space. **CANADIANDRIVER.COM**

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

Sorento joins CUV crowd

New platform behind improved handling, quiet ride

MICHAEL GOETZ
for Metro Canada

Crossovers rule and SUVs drool.

That's not quite how the analysts describe the ongoing shift from truck-based SUVs to car-based crossovers, but close.

As such, we're used to seeing CUVs (crossover utility vehicles) torment their SUV classmates in the sales-chart playground. But now we're even seeing iconic SUV nameplates "crossing over."

The highest profile defector is the upcoming all-new Ford Explorer, which joins the CUV crowd after spending all its life up until now as a truck. But beating it to the punch is the 2011 Kia Sorento.

The nameplate was first introduced in 2002 as a straight-up SUV. Now that Kia is owned by Hyundai, and now that old-school SUVs are, well, old school, the Sorento has migrated over to the platform that also underpins the Hyundai Santa Fe crossover and the Sonata sedan.

So if you're familiar with the 2010 Santa Fe, you'll be relatively up to speed on the 2011 Sorento.

Judging by our first fling with the Sorento on the highways and by-ways around West Point, Ga., where the Sorento is being built at Kia's first U.S. plant, it's a tough call on which Sorento you should get — both the entry-level four-

The 2011 Kia Sorento is built on the same platform that underpins the Hyundai Santa Fe crossover and the Sonata sedan.



2011 Kia Sorento

Type: Compact crossover
Price: \$23,995-\$39,195
Engine: I4, DOHC 2.4L/V6, DOHC 3.5L
HP: 175@6,000/276@6,300

Highlights

- Built in the U.S.
- Over 15 models, including seven-seater
- Impressive V6 powertrain

cylinder vehicle and the higher-rent six-cylinder vehicles have something to say.

The base model (LX) with 175-hp 2.4 litre I4, manual transmission and FWD is

just \$23,995. At that price it competes with the "smaller half" of the compact segment, but it offers up the interior volume (4,035 L) of the "larger half."

Note also that all Canadian models come standard with these all-weather tools: heated seats, A/C, windshield wiper de-icer, and power heated outside mirrors. All trim lines also feature six air bags, ABS, ESC, Electronic Brake Distribution, Hill Start Assist Control, and Downhill Brake Control.

The V6 is exclusively mated to automatics, starting at \$29,095. The EX range begins with the FWD V6 at \$31,795, and tops out with the seven-seat AWD Luxury



Inside, the 2011 Kia Sorento may not have a "wow" factor but there are plenty of functional options.

trim model at \$39,195.

Drivers will be pleasantly surprised at the fine handling and quiet ride of all Sorento models — and the main reason why Sorento is

way better off on this lighter "car platform," with fully independent suspension. The least expensive seven-seat model is the FWD V6 LX at \$30,295.



Honda's solar hydrogen station prototype.

Hydrogen at home

TECH Honda recently began operation of a next-generation solar hydrogen station prototype at the Los Angeles Center of Honda R&D Americas, intended for ultimate use as a home refueling appliance capable of an overnight refill of fuel cell electric vehicles.

Designed as a single, integrated unit to fit in the user's garage, Honda's next-generation Solar Hydrogen Station reduces the size of the system, while producing enough hydrogen (0.5kg) via an eight-hour overnight fill for daily commuting (16,000 kilometres per year) for a fuel cell electric vehicle.

The previous solar hydrogen station system required both an electrolyzer and a separate compressor unit to create high pressure hydrogen. The compressor was the largest and most expensive component and reduced system efficiency.

By creating a new high differential pressure electrolyzer, Honda engineers were able to eliminate the compressor entirely — a world's first for a home use system.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Auto show like Vitamin D in winter

AutoPilot

Mike Goetz

metronews.ca/autopilot

ots of sobering auto news of late... Many pedestrians at the sharp end of run-ins with motorists... Toyota fixing

quite a lot of gas pedals... Ontario ends its grace period for cellphoning while driving and begins to hand out \$150 "reminders."

Time for some auto escapism.

I thought our buddy James Cameron would have helped out here. Given his ground breaking film technology, he could have gave his Avatar people some really fantastical motorized rides, but nooooo... He goes all mythical creature-like, which is

so last century.

But we can reliably secure our fix for things shiny and mechanical, at one of this winter's auto shows. Montreal starts the Canadian auto show season off with a bang in early January, followed by Edmonton later in the month, Toronto next week, Calgary in mid-March, and Vancouver in late March. There are lots of great regional shows as well.

Any will do. As long as it's indoors, where the

cars stay shiny, and the "presenters" never seem to age.

It's one of the rare places where one can receive the automotive equivalent of Vitamin D during the dark days of winter.

Auto shows are nice reminders that dream cars actually do exist in the flesh. You can touch them, and in some cases, plant your butt in the driver's seat.

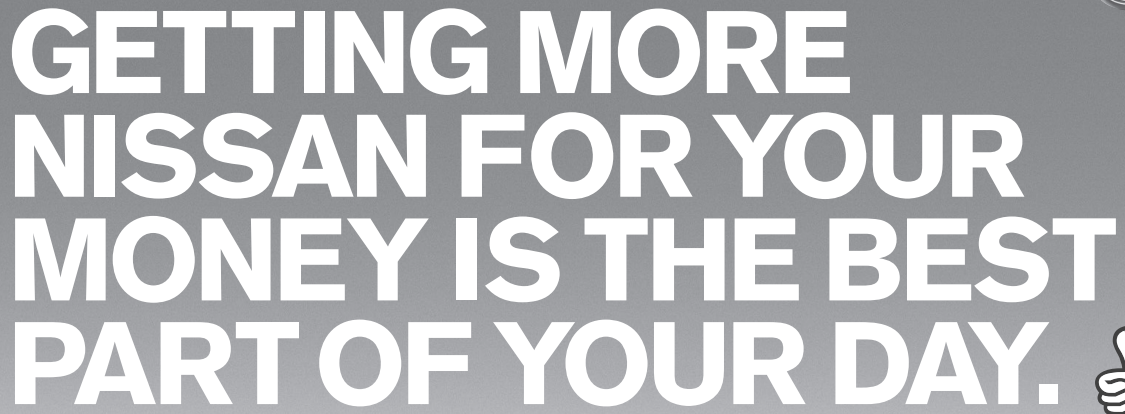
It might be a bit rich to call auto show meandering as "living in the moment"



Playboy centrefold Marilyn Hanold poses with the Jaguar E-type coupe at the 1961 New York Auto Show. Auto shows have always been a hub of entertainment and information, our columnist says.

but I'm pretty sure it's close to it, probably on the same road, and I heartily recommend it.

Michael Goetz has been writing about cars and editing automotive publications for over 20 years. He lives in Toronto with his family and a neglected 1967 Jaguar E-type.



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Travel

EDITOR: BEN.RYCROFT@METRONWS.CA



Heading south for the winter?

Interstate 75 and the 401 is a unique and comprehensive guide that covers Ontario Highway 401 to the U.S. border at Detroit then south along the I-75 to Florida. A quick reference section by exit shows details for gas stations, restaurants and lodgings, with plenty of interesting side trips to sites nearby. As a bonus, there are 300 coupons worth over \$2,000 for restaurants, inns, motels, campgrounds, gas stations, historic sites, amusement parks and other sites.

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Boat show docking in Miami

Heading to Miami for the Super Bowl? You might want to stick around an extra week as the biggest boat show in the world sails into Miami's port.

The 69th annual Miami International Boat Show & Strictly Sail Miami cruises into town Feb. 11 to 15, with the best boating industry has to offer.

BEST DEALS

Boating is more budget-friendly than you may think. The Affordability Pavilion is returning for the second year, showcasing boats for those with smaller budgets, highlighting pricing options and displaying boats that visitors can finance for \$250 or less.

PARTY HEARTY

Celebrate the South Florida sunsets with fellow boating enthusiasts and



Visitors to the show are encouraged to submit their best photos of how they discovered boating for a chance to win a boating prize pack. Visit MiamiBoatShow.com for more details.

enjoy food and drink specials from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., Friday, Feb. 11, through to Sunday along Convention Center Drive at the Miami Beach Convention Center.

NEED FOR SPEED

Miss GEICO is back. The world's fastest offshore racing boat, powered with

the same turbine engines that flew missions in the first Gulf War and can reach speeds of more than 185 miles per hour, will dazzle any boating enthusiast with a need for speed.

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The Big Game Room is celebrating its 7th year as

the one-stop marketplace for every angler. Take a walk over to the interactive Bait Rigging Station, where visitors can improve their rigging techniques; or try the new Chair Fighting Challenge — the Mechanical Bull of the Fishing World. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

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Punta Cana
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Mont Tremblant
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California Air + Car
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Diego and 7-day car rental with unlimited mileage.
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for \$25 per day. + taxes & fees \$115

Boston Air + 3 Nights
Midtown Hotel
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for \$89. + taxes & fees \$125

New York March Break
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INCLUDES Manhattan accom. Departs Mar 12/15/16. + taxes & fees \$111

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Sonesta Bayfront Resort
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INCLUDES daily breakfast. Departs Feb 6/15/16. + taxes & fees \$130

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Departs Feb 8/15/16. + taxes & fees \$216

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Dunes Beach Resort
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Holguin 7 Nights 4-Star
Blau Costa Verde Beach Resort
Departs Feb 8/15/16. + taxes & fees \$194

Punta Cana 7 Nights 4-Star
RIU Naiboa
Departs Feb 5/15/16. + taxes & fees \$311

San Salvador 7 Nights 4-Star
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Departs Feb 8/15/16. + taxes & fees \$254

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Porter expanding its wings

Porter Airlines is introducing year-round flights between Sudbury and Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport, beginning Mar. 31. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

travel 19



METRO WORLD NEWS

Norway offers a chance to lead a team of husky dogs.

3 working holidays

EUGENE HENDERSON
Metro World News



If you like working hard and playing hard these trips are for you — and you can save some dough in the process.

BECOME AN ARTIST

Italy
English-speaking international artists are attempting to convert an old monastery in Umbria into a non-profit arts centre, and need help. It's an idyllic setting 70km north of Rome and the community is looking for "energetic

dreamers" to help with arts projects, maintenance. You get a tent in an olive grove or shared room in guest house.

BECOME A FARMER

Virgin Islands
A hostel and campground is looking for "responsible volunteers" to help start an organic farm, assist with selling products, and routine duties including cooking, shopping, and gardening. The farm is highly eco-friendly and the owners say they are "open to suggestions, thoughts and ideas." Accommodation is cabins and ecotents.

Slightly basic but hey this is the Caribbean so it's beautiful.

LEAD A HUSKY TEAM

Norway
Staying in a cabin at a lodge near the Karasjohka river, near Karasjok, you will look after and walk the team of 50 dogs and rent out cabins to tourists who come for husky sled rides. General maintenance is also expected. You get free accommodation and food during your stay and Not for couch potatoes.

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Book now through 3/27/10.
Ask for package code **SHP**.



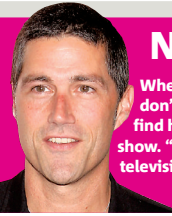
The number of rooms available at these rates is limited. Minimum length-of-stay requirements may apply for Friday or Saturday arrivals. Savings based on non-discounted rate for the same room. Additional per-adult charges apply if more than two adults in a room. No group rates or other discounts apply. Advance reservations required.

©Disney RST-09-15177

On Monday afternoon, an impressive list of stars — including Celine Dion, Jennifer Hudson, Justin Bieber and Kanye West — began arriving at the Jim Henson Studios in Hollywood to re-record the classic charity single *We Are the World*, this time for Haiti earthquake relief. USMAGAZINE.COM

Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA



No more TV

When *Lost* wraps up this May, don't expect Matthew Fox to find himself on another TV show. "I won't be doing any more television," the star, 43, says.

USMAGAZINE.COM

Avatar, Locker lead Oscar race

Hollywood Votes

Academy Awards

The science-fiction sensation *Avatar* and the war-terror thriller *The Hurt Locker* lead the Academy Awards with nine nominations each, including best picture and director for former spouses James Cameron and Kathryn Bigelow.

m.metronews.ca



Scan this bar code or visit metronews.ca/entertainment for a complete list of Academy Award nominees

For the first time since 1943 the Oscars feature 10 best-picture contenders instead of the usual five.

Also nominated for best-picture yesterday: District 9; the animated comedy *Up in the Air*; the Second World War saga *Inglourious Basterds*; the football drama *The Blind Side*; the recession tale *Up in the Air*; the 1960s drama *A Serious Man*, and the teen tales *An Education* and *Precious*: Based on the Novel Push By Sapphire.

Acting nominees include the four stars who have dominated early awards shows: Lead players Sandra Bullock for the football drama *The Blind Side* and Jeff Bridges for the country-music tale *Crazy Heart* and supporting performers Mo'Nique for *Precious* and



Avatar is nominated for nine Oscar awards, including best picture.

Christoph Waltz for *Inglourious Basterds*.

The best-picture and director categories shape up as a showdown between ex-spouses who directed films that have dominated earlier Hollywood honours.

Cameron's *Avatar* won best drama and director at the Golden Globes, while

Bigelow's *The Hurt Locker* beat out Cameron at the Directors Guild of America Awards, whose recipient usually goes on to earn the best-director Oscar.

The *Hurt Locker* also beat *Avatar* for the Producers Guild of America top prize and was chosen as last year's best film by many

key critics groups.

Bigelow said she was gratified and humbled.

"It's a huge, huge compliment to the entire cast and crew," she said. "It was a very difficult shoot of heat and sun and windstorms and sandstorms and they had to unite crew from Lebanon and Israel."

Bigelow is only the fourth woman nominated for a directing Oscar. No woman has ever won the directing Oscar, and until Bigelow, no woman had ever won the Directors Guild honour. Lee Daniels, who made *Precious*, became only the second black film-



Bridges



Bullock

maker nominated for best director, after John Singleton for 1991's *Boyz n the Hood*.

There will also be some competition among Canadians in the directing category. Montreal-born director Jason Reitman, nominated for *Up in the Air* will compete against Cameron, who was born in Kapuskasing, Ont. Rounding out the directing category is Quentin Tarantino for *Inglourious Basterds*.

Vancouver-based Neill Blomkamp and Terri Tatchell, meanwhile, are nominated for best adapted screenplay for *District 9*. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



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Canada



Canadian Museum of Civilization

- Free admission, 5 pm to 11 pm
- Artistic performances, 7 pm
- Official launch, 8:15 pm
- Musical fireworks show, 8:50 pm
- DJ Mistress Barbara, 9:10 pm

Jacques-Cartier Park

- Site open until 10 pm
- Musical fireworks show, 8:50 pm

Major's Hill Park

- Flying Canucks, 7 pm to 10 pm
- Art exhibits, 7 pm to 10 pm
- Musical fireworks show, 8:50 pm

Schedule subject to change.

Fireworks soundtrack broadcast on CHIN Ottawa 97.9 FM.



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No more Mr. Nice Guy

Travolta reflects on new ruthless role and a 37-year career

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

Whether it's strutting his stuff to the Bee Gees, munching down a Royal With Cheese with Samuel L. Jackson, or swapping faces with Nicholas Cage, John Travolta has provided audiences with a laundry list of memorable movie moments.

Over a 37-year career, Travolta has become one of the most recognizable faces in film. But when looking back on his early work, the actor admits that he can barely recognize himself.

"I see a little boy in those movies," Travolta says. "I thought I was very advanced in those days, but I know much more now. I was lucky to start in this industry with a bang and I'm even luckier to still be here."

This week audiences may see a side of Travolta they never expected in *From Paris With Love*. The star plays a ruthless special agent with no qualms about



John Travolta, left, plays a special agent in *From Paris With Love*.

shooting first without ever getting to the questions.

"It's a pretty extreme character. I don't think anyone has seen me quite this way before and that was the reason to do it," says Travolta. "We decided that the only way it would work was to be bold with the character and go all the way."

No matter how violent or over-the-top his character might be, Travolta was never worried about harming his nice-guy image. "It wasn't a concern because he's not really a villain. He's a good guy with unorthodox

methods."

The movie is an all-out action thriller ride filled with car chases, gunfights, explosions, and at least one rocket launcher. Surprisingly the 55-year-old actor ended up doing most of his own stunts on the project.

"When we started I said to (director) Pierre Morel, 'Do you really want me to do all of these stunts because I'm an old man?'" says Travolta. "But there was such a confidence there

that I thought I'd better to live up to their expectations and really went for it. It paid off because I've never done this much action in a movie before."

From *Paris With Love* also gave Travolta the opportunity to change his appearance, shaving his head and growing a goatee for the role. A jarring look that the actor and director claim they got from photos of special agents in *Soldier Of Fortune* magazine.

Audiences are sure to be caught off guard, but that's what the actor hoped for and it reminded him of his approach to one of his most famous roles.

"It was similar to Pulp Fiction where it was my idea to do that Dutch Boy thing," says Travolta. "The character had just been in Europe, so I thought it would be an appropriate Eurotrash look... In both movies my look is the signature of the character."

From Paris With Love opens on Friday

CLUB METRO WEEKLY REWARDS



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3GS IPHONES



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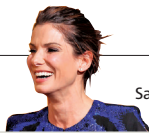
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PT	Vu SC C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
23/10	265 353 2	TVO	Meerkat Manor	Meerkat Manor	The Agenda With Steve Palkin	New Tricks		Human Edge (N)		Agenda-Palkin
	211 331 3	GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	Bones (HDTV) (N)	Kitchen Nightmares (N)		The Deep End (N)		News Hour
	- - 5	SRC	Virginie (SC)	L'Épicerie	Le Moment de vérité (SC)	Mirador (HDTV) (N) (SC)		Le Téléjournal Nouvelles (SC)		La Zone (SC)
	209 342 6	CHRO	Degrassi	TMZ (N)	Old Christine	The Middle (N)	Hope Floats ** (1998, Romance)	Sandra Bullock		Comedy Now
	196 311 7	CTV	etalk	Access H.	Criminal Minds (N)	American Idol (HDTV) (N)	CSI: NY "Sanguine Love"			CTV News
	208 303 8	CBC	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Gregory's Den (HDTV) (N)	Republic of Doyle (DVS)	CBC News: The National			The Hour
	- 360 9	NBC	State of the State	Jeopardy! (N)	Mercy (HDTV) (N)	Law & Order: SVU	The Jay Leno Show (N)			News
	117 713 10	TVA	Poule-oufs or	Les Gags	Destinées (HDTV) (N) (SC)	Dr. House (SC)	TVI nouvelles	(10:45) Denis Lévesque		
	- - 11	OS	Merlin (N) (SC)		Flashpoint (SC)	Terminator: Les Chroniques	Wipe Out	L'Attaque à 5 (N)		
	137 763 12	TFO	Panorama		L'empire du mot	Moolaadé *** (2004, Drame)	Fatoumata Coulibaly			Expression
	- 362 13	CBS	The Insider (N)	Judge Brown	Super Bowl-Commercials	Criminal Minds (N)	CSI: NY "Sanguine Love"			Two/Half Men
	216 395 14	OMN2	Family Guy	The Simpsons	Omni News: S. Asian Edition	Omni News: Cantonese Edition	Two/Half Men	King/Queens		Cold Case
	214 344 15	CINZ	Law & Order: Special Victims	Mercy (HDTV) (N)	Modern Family	Cougar Town	Ugly Betty (HDTV) (N)			News
	115 343 16	CFMT	Two/Half Men	The Office	Omni News: Italian Edition (N)	Vivere V	Omni News:			Look I Cook
	218 345 18	CHCH	Teen Knight (1998, Adventure)	Kris Lemche, Benjamin Plener	The Good Shepherd ** (2004, Mystery)	Christian Slater				News at 11 (N)
	- 361 20	ABC	Action News	Entertainment	Modern Family	The Middle (N)	Modern Family	Cougar Town	(10:01) Ugly Betty (N)	News
	512 396 24	CPAC	(4) Dossier public (SC)		Heure polit.	L'Heure politique				Dossier public
	651 355 25	CTS	Little House on the Prairie		Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman	Human Target (HDTV) (N)	100 Huntley Street			Life Today
	- 365 36	FOX	TMZ (N)	Seinfeld	Human Target (HDTV) (N)	WPBS Live!	American Idol (HDTV) (N)			FOX 2 News (N)
	- - 64	PBS	Business Rpt.	Carnegie Hall	WPBS Live!		The National Parks: America's Best Idea (DVS)			Life Today
	205 312 104	CTV	etalk	Access H.	Criminal Minds (N)		American Idol (HDTV) (N)			CSI: NY "Sanguine Love"
	502 390 26	NW	Connect Today's biggest stories (N)				CBC News: The National			Badge of Pride
	500 500 33	CNN	Situation Room-Wolf Blitzer	Campbell Brown (N)			Larry King Live (N)			Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)
	406 417 27	net	NHL Hockey Ottawa Senators at Buffalo Sabres (HDTV) (Live)				Overtime			Sportsnet Connected
	126 730 28	RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes (SC)	Grands reportages (SC)			The Téléjournal (SC)			RDI économie
	400 280 30	TSN	(6:30) Curling Scotties Tournament of Hearts. From Kindersley, Sask. (Live)				NHL Hockey Philadelphia Flyers at Edmonton Oilers.			Le National
	410 403 52	OLN	College Basketball DePaul at Marquette. (Live)				College Basketball Kansas at Colorado. (Live)			Score Now
	411 457 56	SCR	Ghost Hunters Academy	Destination Truth			Operate-Repo			Operate-Repo
	417 406 59	SC	Pass Time	NASCAR Hub	Dangerous Drives (HDTV)		Pass Time (N)			Wrecked
	554 544 48	TEL	Scooby-Doo	Total Drama	Total Drama	STEEN	Futurama			American Dad
	557 540 51	FAM	Sonny Chance	Suite Life	Overruled!	Han, Montana	Wizards-Place			Latest Buzz
	551 542 65	YTV	iCarly	That's-Weird	Malcolm-Mid.	Hates Chris	8 Simple Rules			What I Like
	570 580 29	MM	The Daily Fix		Ranked!		G. Simmons			Gene Simmons
	615 520 31	A&E	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Dog the Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter			Steven Seagal
	628 584 32	SPKE	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die			MANswers (N)
	521 560 34	TLC	Mystery Diagnosis		Conjoined Twins		I'm Pregnant			Toddler & Tiaras (N)
	145 761 35	TV5	Verdict		Tout un hiver sans feu		A Table			Mixeur
	616 521 39	BVO	Relic Hunter		Blind Trust (2007, Suspense)	Jessica Capshaw	Wingfield			Hawthorne (N)
	620 523 40	SHO	Death at-Opera	Bravo/Videos	Arts & Minds	O'Reagan File	License to Drill			Mayday
	520 505 42	DIS	Daily Planet (N)		The Colony (N)		According/Jim			Home Improve.
	575 583 43	CMT	Amer. Funniest Home Videos		Reba	Reba	End of Leash			End of Leash
	601 562 45	SC	Rich Bride Poor Bride		End of Leash	End of Leash	South Park			Little Britain
	625 548 46	COLM	Air Force	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons			Hot Box
	294 529 47	TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	College Basketball Mississippi State at Vanderbilt. (Live)		Law & Order: Special Victims			The Office
	600 564 49	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	The Nightmare	Cribs	Cribs			Supernatural (HDTV) (N)
	627 528 50	SPC	Stargate Atlantis	(DVS)	The Nightmare	Cribs	Cribs			The Real World (N)
	561 566 53	MTV	Peak Season	After	Hoarders "Judi and Gail"	Nostradamus Effect (N)	Ice Road Truckers			Ice Road Truckers
	618 524 54	TROP	Rescue Ink "No Bull"		Le Convol de l'extrême (SC)		Dest'r Expr			Dest'r Expr
	522 506 55	HIS	Ice Pilots NWT (N)		No Place Like	Open All Hours	Doc Martin (N)			Unscripted (N)
	129 773 60	CD	Biographies "Matt Damon"		No Place Like	Open All Hours	Doc Martin (N)			Unscripted (N)
	261 394 61	V	Murder, She Wrote		Superman	Chief Worthy	Grocery Bag			Wings-Canada
	602 567 62	W	Superman		Chief Worthy	Grocery Bag	Grocery Bag			The Restaurant
	269 350 70	APTN	Investigates	Front Runner	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		Iron Chef America			Chopped "Sticking to It"
	621 527 71	TLK	Look-A-Like	TMZ						Great Towns
	603 561 95	FN	Ricardo	Fresh-Anna	Challenge					Venturing Frth



Sandra Bullock and her husband Jesse James continue to battle in court with his ex-wife, porn star Janine Lindemulder. The judge denied Lindemulder visitation rights to see Sunny, her six-year-old daughter, E! News reports. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Celebrity Buzz

Follow these celebrities on Twitter...

CelebTweets

JOEL MCHALE

doesn't feel like explaining his fashion choices, **LINDSAY LOHAN** needs tech support, and **DEMI MOORE** splits talk-show duties with her husband.



@joelmchale I'm wearing short shorts right now. Please don't ask why.
@lindsaylohan HOW DO I UPLOAD A VIDEO! People always say "ask for help if you need it" i am asking!
@mrskutcher Hey just met the Jersey Shore crew! Hubby is going to be so jealous he is over at GMA today instead of the Today Show with me! Hehe!

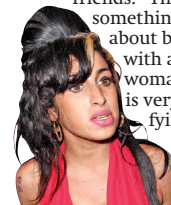
METRO WORLD NEWS

Love is a many splendid thing

IT'S ALSO A MANY GENDERED THING

Amy Winehouse is reportedly no stranger to same-sex relationships, but she doesn't see why that should stop her reuniting with ex-husband Blake Fielder-Civil, according to News of the World.

"I have had relationships with other women but that doesn't mean I don't still love Blake," Winehouse tells friends. "There is something about being with a woman that is very satisfying."



METRO WORLD NEWS

A woman's intuition

AKA: GOOGLE Katy Perry already had an inkling that Russell Brand was going to pop the question, thanks to the power of the Internet.

"Unfortunately, I still Google myself sometimes. I saw it on Google alerts. I'm going to be honest," she tells E! News. Brand had been spotted shopping

for engagement rings, with the trip widely reported across the web.



METRO WORLD NEWS

Says 'no' to 'yes' people

AND 'YES' TO BEYOND THE GRAVE GREETINGS Janet Jackson still expects her late brother Michael to call her, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The singer — and younger sister of the Thriller star, who died last June from acute Propofol intoxication, at the age of 50 — says her grief gets easier with every day that passes, but she would do anything to hear him speak again.

"It gets sad sometimes because, I don't know, you think your phone is going to ring and you hear that voice calling your name," she says.



METRO NEWS SERVICES

"But, yeah, life goes on and everybody grieves differently. And every day is different. Some days it's much easier than others."

Jackson, 43, also revealed Michael's untimely passing made her realize she needed to make changes in her life. She said in an interview with Wonderland magazine, "A lot of people in this industry have a lot of 'yes' people. That I can tell you I do not have."

"A lot has changed in my life this year, a lot of changes, I think I'm kind of heading in a different direction for sure."

etalk's Lainey Lui dishes out celeb dirt in three's



etalk's Lainey Lui dishes out celeb dirt in three's

THREE Talk with Lainey Lui
JOHNNY DEPP. Johnny Depp is the reigning People Magazine Sexiest Man Alive and one of the most popular actors in the world. He is also one of the most private. With worldwide career box office earnings totalling more than \$4 billion, Johnny has accumulated a personal fortune that has enabled him to live in relative obscurity in relation to his fame and, in comparison to his peers Brad Pitt and George Clooney, fiercely guard his personal life. Here are three things you might not know about Johnny Depp:



ONE He arrived in Hollywood intending to pursue a record deal with his band. It was Nicolas Cage who persuaded him to become an actor. The two are still friends and Depp was rumoured to have offered to bail Cage out of his recent financial troubles.

TWO Depp developed a close relationship with one of his literary idols Hunter S. Thompson. When Thompson committed suicide in 2005, Depp paid for most of the memorial, including spending a reported \$2 million to build the cannon from which Thompson's ashes were fired.

THREE Depp regularly dresses up as Captain Jack Sparrow, his character from Pirates of the Caribbean, for visits to the children's ward of the hospital where his daughter Lily Rose was once treated for a near fatal infection. Hospital staff say he always arrives unannounced, leaves without fanfare, and makes sure to spend as much time with as many young fans as possible.

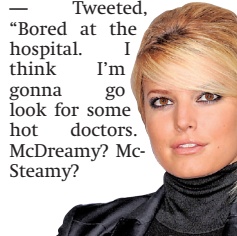
Lainey Lui is a reporter for etalk and runs the popular gossip site, LaineyGossip.com. As part of CTV's Olympic Broadcast Team, Lainey is on the ground in Whistler reporting on entertainment news from the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games. **etalk**

Digging Doctor Dolittle

HE UNDERSTANDS WHAT SHE'S SAYING, EVEN IF SHE DOESN'T

At the hospital over the past few days to visit her "Nana," who had a tumour removed Jan. 29, Jessica Simpson has been passing the hours admiring the "cute doctors" — and it looks like they are returning the attention, people.com reports.

On Monday the pop star — who's single again — Tweeted, "Bored at the hospital. I think I'm gonna go look for some hot doctors. McDreamy? McSteamy?"



METRO NEWS SERVICES

Clooney? Let the search begin ..."

And it appears she found her medic — who delivered just the right prescription ... a spelling lesson.

On Jan. 30, Simpson attempted to quote Bob Dylan when she Tweeted, "You can fake an orgasm (sic) but you can't fake laughter." Hours later, however, she clarified her message by saying that she meant "orgasm," not "orgasim."

The fix came, she Tweeted, as a result of "one of the cute doctors here at the hospital informed me of my misspelled tweet. Hmm ... was he hitting on me?"

On the rocky road to rehabilitation

AGAIN A judge in Los Angeles is sending the troubled son of Ryan O'Neal and the late Farrah Fawcett back to rehab after more than a month in jail. The judge placed Redmond O'Neal back on probation and sentenced to an intense residential rehab program during a

brief hearing Thursday. The 25-year-old has been jailed since Dec. 29 for violating his probation on a previous drug conviction. The Los Angeles Superior Court Judge says if O'Neal succeeds at the rehab program, he will then be sent to a sober-living facility. **METRO WORLD NEWS**

WEEKLY REWARDS

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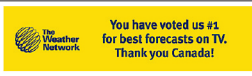
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19th Annual ByWard Market STEW COOK OFF

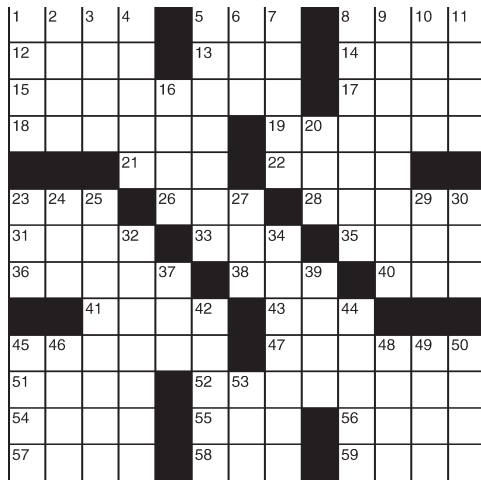
Feb. 5th, 12PM – 2PM, at the corner of George and William

\$10 for all the stew you can eat, proceeds to Project S.T.E.P.

Thank you to our sponsors:



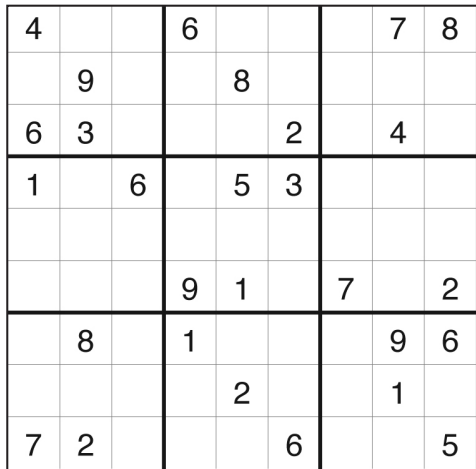
For more delicious Metro recipes, visit: metronews.ca/food



Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.



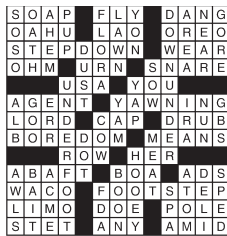
ACROSS

- 1 Vicinity
- 5 Inhabitant (Abbr.)
- 8 Detail
- 12 Paper quantity
- 13 Kanga's kid
- 14 Undressed
- 15 No. 51 on the table
- 17 Unforeseen problem
- 18 Sarajevo's land
- 19 Baffler
- 21 Frequently
- 22 Tango moves
- 23 Antonym (Abbr.)
- 26 Teeny tale
- 28 Attack dog, e.g.
- 31 Island dance
- 33 Help
- 35 Ms. Moore
- 36 "The final frontier"
- 38 Support system?
- 40 Gist
- 41 Brass

DOWN

- 43 Mischief-maker
- 45 Scales
- 47 Buccaneer
- 51 Top-notch
- 52 No. 1 on the table
- 54 Whirled
- 55 Listener
- 56 Monetary supply
- 57 Fixes a skirt
- 58 Agent
- 59 Collections
- 1 Bedouin
- 2 Nevada city
- 3 Dines on
- 4 Acid type
- 5 Zagreb's land
- 6 Charged bit
- 7 Tinkered (with)
- 8 Flat
- 9 No. 74 on the table
- 10 Cheese choice
- 11 Ginormous
- 16 Irk
- 20 Penpoint
- 23 Surprise cries
- 24 Young seal
- 25 No. 78 on the table
- 27 Chest protector
- 29 Ostrich's cousin
- 30 Umbrella-frame part
- 32 Keen senses of judgment
- 34 Hang on the line, maybe
- 37 Recede
- 39 Eastern bigwig
- 42 Fireplace residue
- 44 Campus staffers
- 45 Money
- 46 Bound along
- 48 Chills and fever
- 49 Bivouac setup
- 50 Make — meet
- 53 Mouth, slangily

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



9	3	4	2	8	5	6	1	7
5	8	7	9	1	6	4	2	3
6	2	1	3	4	7	8	9	5
3	7	8	1	9	2	5	4	6
1	6	9	5	7	4	2	3	8
2	4	5	6	3	8	1	7	9
7	9	6	4	5	1	3	8	2
8	1	2	7	6	3	9	5	4
4	5	3	8	2	9	7	6	1



Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Do something that even by your standards is a bit over the top. You need to remind yourself that sometimes life can be taken too seriously.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Everything will go well for you today so long as you don't get distracted by things that are of no real importance.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
You may be having your doubts about a commitment that only a short while ago you thought was the best thing you had ever signed up to.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
If someone offers you their help you should think long and hard before accepting. Will there be something you have to do for them in return?

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Something will not work out the way you expected today but don't sweat it because it does not matter that much.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
If you don't know why a loved one is acting a little bit cold towards you it is probably because you have said or done something they do not approve of.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Something will happen over the next few days that compels you to reconsider a belief or opinion you have never had cause to question before.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
According to the planets you have been working too hard and need to go easier on yourself over the next few days.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
What you are about to do may not be to everyone's tastes but you are not doing it for them, you are doing it for you, and nothing else matters.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
Chances are you have allowed too many people to get away with too many things in recent weeks.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
As a Virgo you are so well organized, but not everyone is as in control of their lives as you are, so make allowances.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Don't expect people you deal with today, at home or at work, to think logically or act in predictable ways.

This day in history

- 1488 – Bartolomeu Dias of Portugal lands in Mossel Bay after rounding the Cape of Good Hope, becoming the first known European to travel so far south.
- 1690 – The colony of Massachusetts issues the first paper money in America.
- 1783 – American Revolutionary War: Spain recognizes United States independence.
- 1916 – Parliament buildings in Ottawa burn down.
- 1966 – The unmanned Soviet Luna 9 spacecraft makes the first controlled rocket-assisted landing on the Moon.

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